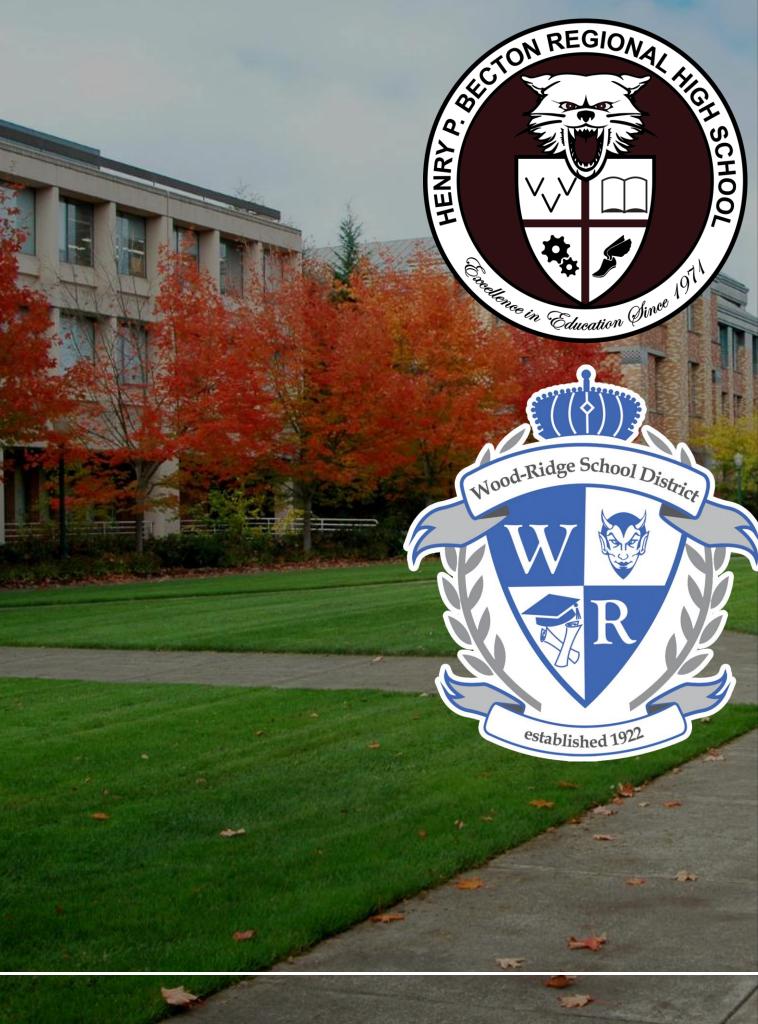
The **Princeton** Review®

Lisa Richter, Partnership Specialist Lisa.Richter@review.com



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Truths and Misconceptions

2

Similarities and Differences



Improving Your Scores

The **Princeton** Review®

TRUTHS AND MISCONCEPTON



The SAT and the ACT serve the exact same purpose:

They are college admissions exams.



In The **Best 390** Colleges

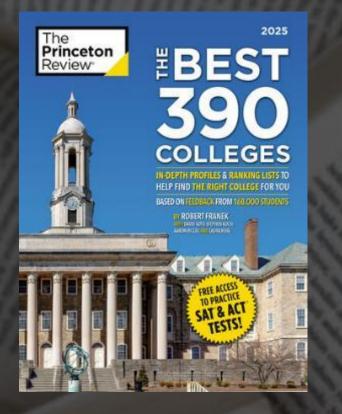
Test Required 7% of Schools

Test Flexible 2% of Schools

Test Required, Test Free, Test Optional?

Test Optional 84% of Schools

Test Free 7% of Schools



In The **Best 390** Colleges

93% of all schools will want to see high test scores if students submit them

96% of those schools with <25% acceptance rate want to see high scores

Test Required, Test Free, Test Optional?

How Optional is Test Optional?

By the time you apply, the current policies at

by-case basis.

advisor.

You should make these choices with a trusted

You should choose to submit scores on a case-

your target schools may change. Stay updated.



You still want to take the ACT or SAT, even if you don't submit your scores.

What do standardized tests measure?

Do College Admissions Tests Like th and ACT...

Measure your intelligence?

Reflect your high school GPA?

Predict your college GPA?

Test what you've learned in high sch

he SAT	True	False	
100l?			

If 3a + 2b = 24 and 4a + 5b = 53, what is the value of a + b?

A. 2 B. 3 C. 7 D. 11 3a + 2b = 243a = 24 - 2ba = 24 - 2b3 a = 8 - 2b3

4a + 5b = 534(8 - 2b/3) + 5b = 5332 - 8b/3 + 5b = 53-8b/3 + 5b = 217b/3 = 21b=9

If 3a + 2b = 24 and 4a + 5b = 53, what is the value of a + b?

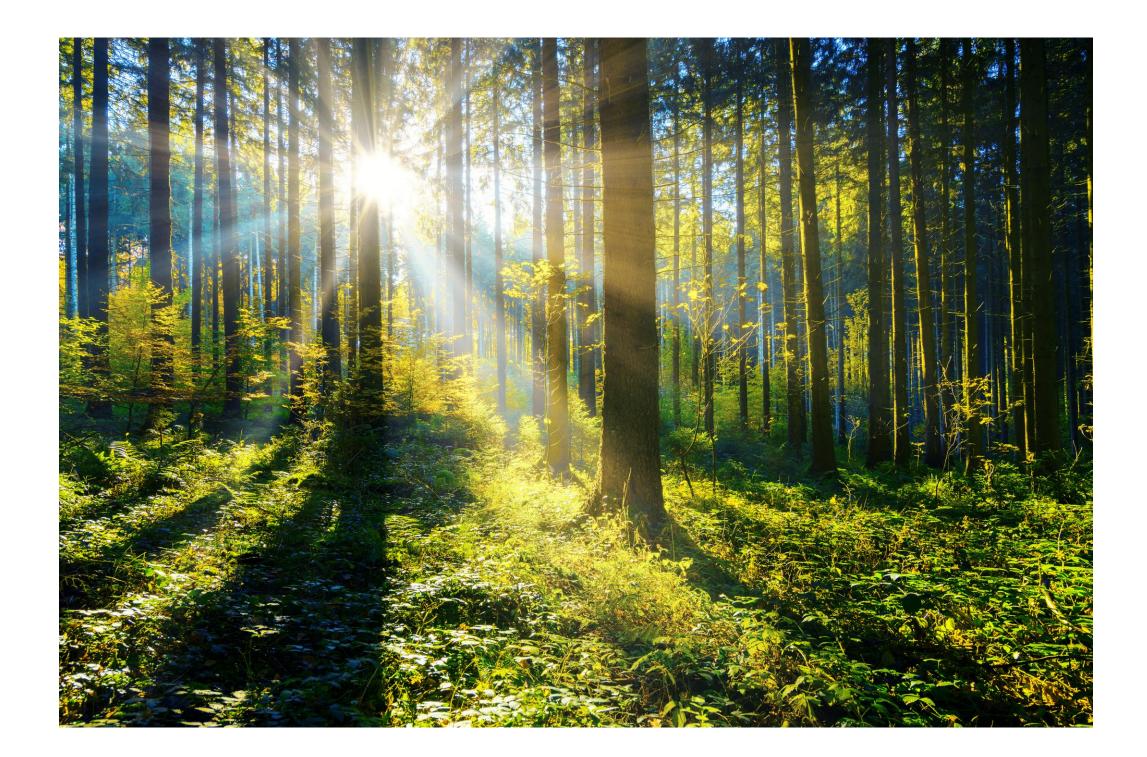
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?????

A. 2 B. 3 C. 7 D. 11

??????

???????



If 3a + 2b = 24 and 4a + 5b = 53, what is the value of a + b?

A. 2 B. 3 7 11

- 3a + 2b = 24
- + 4a + 5b = 53
 - 7a + 7b = 77
 - *a* + *b* = 11

The SAT and ACT are not like the tests you take in high school.

High School Tests vs. Standardized Tests

High School Tests

Limited subject matter

Content knowledge

Plenty of time to complete

Partial credit

One element of overall grade

Standardized Tests Years of material... ... hidden behind testing strategy **Rigorously timed** Partial answers lead to traps Only your final score matters

Other myths busted



• Some colleges prefer one of these tests to the other. **BUSTED!**

• Some colleges only accept one of these tests. **BUSTED**!



The biggest myth about the ACT and SAT...?

What's a good score on the ACT or SAT?

SAT Scoring



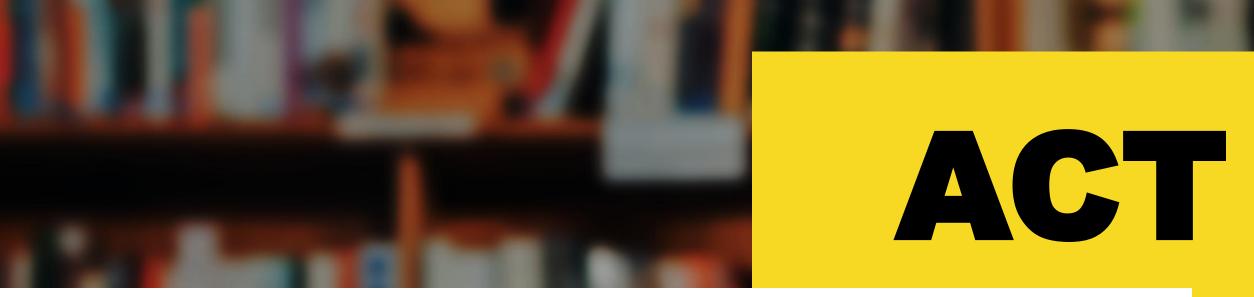
• SAT Scale: 400-1600

- Reading & Writing: Ο
 - Math: \bigcirc



Scaled scores are comprised by summing the section scores 200-800 200-800

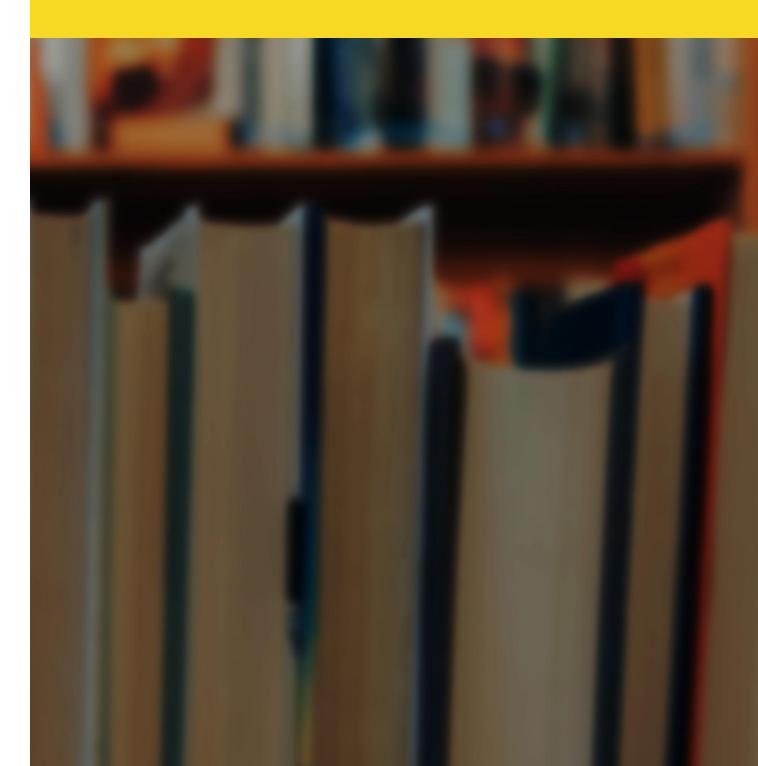
Questions have varying weight



• ACT Scale: 1-36

- o English 1-36
- o Math 1-36
- Reading 1-36
- \circ Science 1-36
- Section scores are averaged for a composite out of 36
- Questions all have equal weight
- Optional Essay
 - $\circ~$ scored separately on a scale of 2-12

ACT Scoring



SAT and ACT Scoring & Percentiles

	SAT	ACT
Average (50 th percentile):	1020	19
66 th + percentile:	1120	22

100 points / 3 points is a rise of more than 15 percentiles.

98 th percentile:	1500	33
99 th + percentile:	1600	36

100 points / 3 points is a rise less than 2 percentiles.



score is the score that gets you accepted.



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SIMILARITIES AND DIFFERENCES



ACT vs SAT -What's the same?

They're both scaled exams.

Both are "tightly timed."

They both test English grammar, reading comprehension, and math.

They both allow calculators.

Neither penalizes wrong answers.

Both taken at a testing site, proctored in-person.

ACT vs SAT -What's different?

The SAT is a digital test.

The ACT can be taken on paper or on a computer.*

SAT math problems are generally a little bit longer.

> The SAT has a built-in Desmos calculator.

ACT tests a few more math concepts, and more plane geometry.

Verbal sections have different formats.*

The ACT has a science section.*

The SAT is shorter.*

SAT & ACT Section-by-Section

SAT SECTIONS			ACT SECT	ONS	
Reading and Writing (Module One)	27 Questions	32 Minutes	English	75 questions	45 minutes
Reading and Writing (Module Two)	27 Questions	32 Minutes	Math	60 questions	60 minutes
Math (Module One)	22 Questions	35 Minutes	Reading	40 questions	35 minutes
Math (Module Two)	22 Questions	35 Minutes	Science	40 questions	35 minutes

The SAT is a computer adaptive test.

PERFORM WELL

PERFORM LESS WELL

FIRST MODULE

Same difficulty for all

SECOND MODULE

More difficult overall

SECOND MODULE

Less difficult overall

You cannot guess the difficulty of your second module.

You can only focus on the questions you are given.

But wait... the ACT is changing!

If you're in the Class of 2025, **NOTHING CHANGES**

18

19

20

22

- 1. The ACT will be shorter, going from about 3 hours to about 2 hours.
- 2. The Science Test will become optional.
- 3. The English, Reading, and Math Tests will have fewer questions.
- 4. It will be offered in both online and paper & pencil formats.
- 5. The scoring scale will remain the same.

If you're in the Class of 2026 or below...



21

A

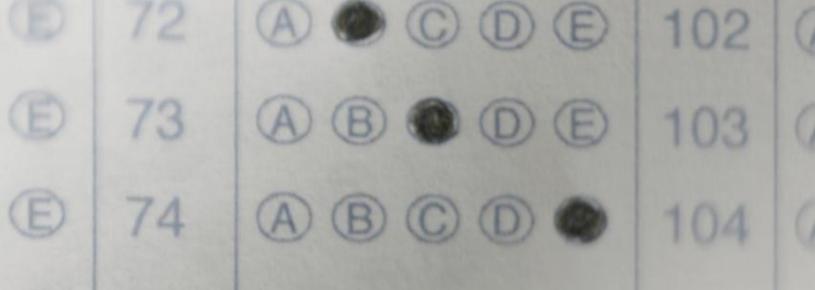
1. The ACT will be shorter, going from about 3 hours to about 2 hours.

The ACT and SAT have been entrenched in a cola war for a long time. The SAT became shorter in 2024.

2. The Science Test will become optional.

ACT ACT Plus Writing

ACT Plus Science



Stay tuned! ACT has not released the official new timing.

ce ACT Plus Science & Writing

*(It may still be required for in-school administrations – stay tuned!)



3. The English, Reading, and Math Tests will have fewer questions.

Currently, the ACT has 175 combined English, Reading & Math questions. The new ACT will have 131. English and Reading passages will be shorter.

4. It will be offered in both online and paper & pencil formats.

"Students can opt to take the test online or with paper and pencil." But all administrations will take place in a testing center, NOT at home.

73

(A)

Stay tuned!

(C) (D)

103

ACT has not announced the official new test structure and format.

Students may NOT use their own devices.

ACT Changes...

18

19

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5. The scoring scale will remain the same.

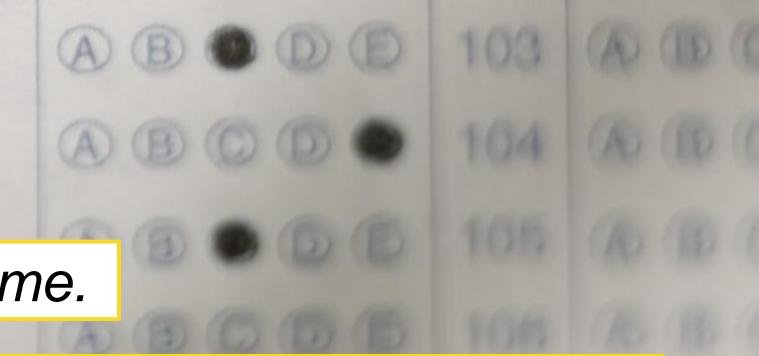
BCCE

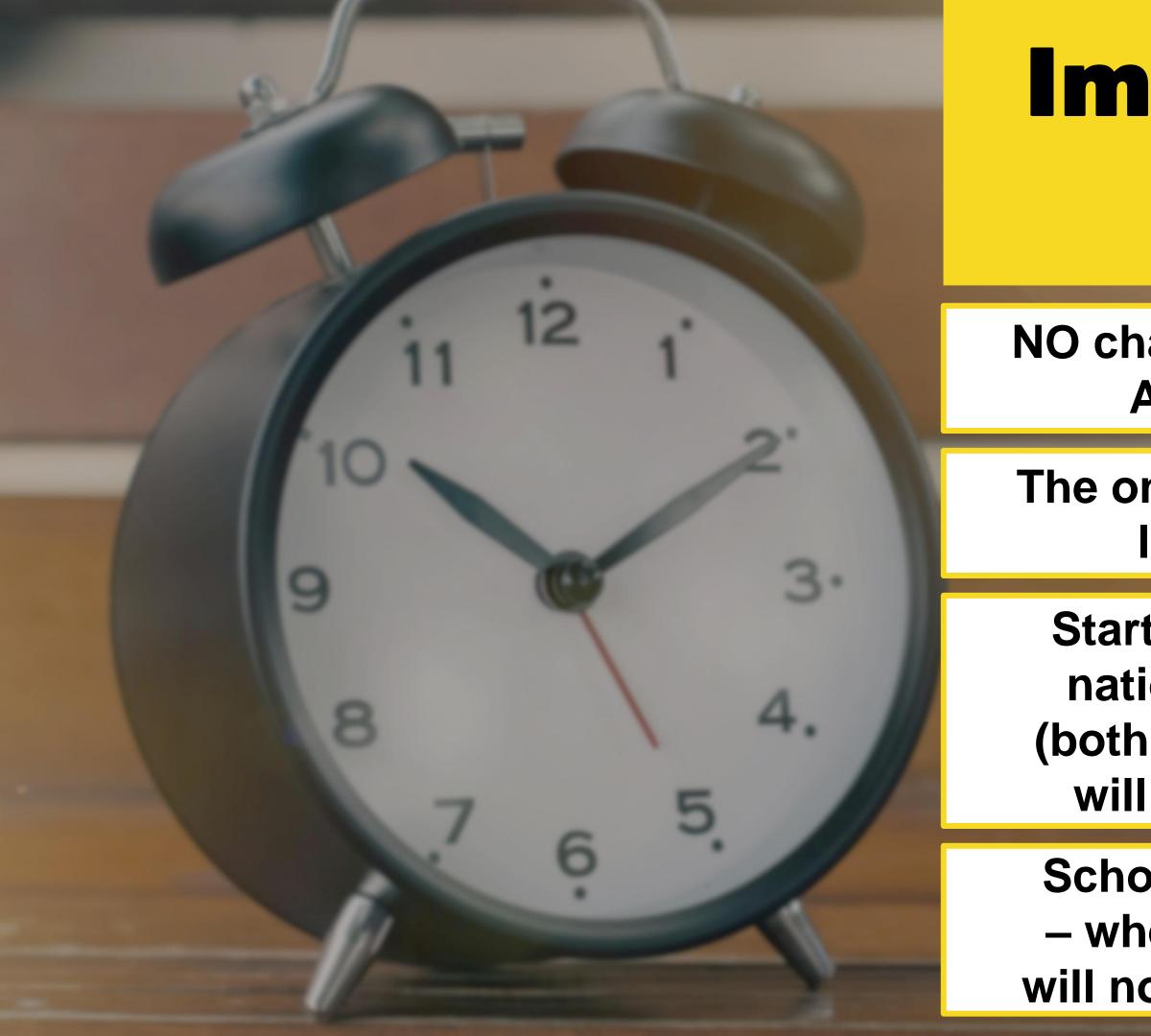
BCDE

73

74

- Sections will still be scored on a 1-36 scale and still be averaged for a composite score.
- College admissions offices can use scores in the exact same way that they always have.
- Currently, it's an average of all four sections English, Math, Reading, and Science.
- Students who are stronger in English, Math, and Reading may find that they can now build stronger composites.





Implementation Timeline

- NO changes to the paper & pencil ACT through July 2025
- The online (computer-based test) launches in April 2025
 - Starting in September 2025 all national test administrations (both paper & pencil and online) will be the new, shorter ACT
- School-day administered ACTs – whether on paper or online – will not change until Spring 2026



Implementation Timeline

"Can I take a shorter ACT with no Science section this school year?

Paper-based test: NO Online test: YES, starting April 2025

Registration for the new ACT opens in December.

Stay tuned!

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IMPROVINCE YOUR SCORES



Follow your personal order of difficulty

Set A contains 12 elements with a mean of 35. Set B contains 9 elements with a mean of 22. Set C contains both Set A and Set B. What is the mean of Set C?

What is the area of a circle with radius 6?

What is the larger value of a that satisfies the equation? | 18 – *a* | = 12?

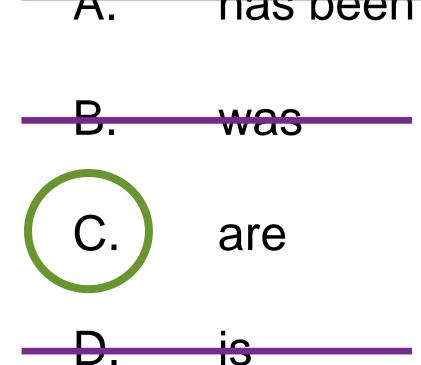
What is x if x + 3 = 8?

What is the product of solutions to the quadratic defined by $f(x) = 2x^2 - 18$?

What is 20 ÷ 5 ?

ACT English / SAT Writing Strategy

The jet streams are fast flowing air currents in the upper atmosphere which occur due to the Earth's rotation and can shift location over time. The movements of the northern polar jet stream important for airlines looking to save time and fuel on eastbound flights.





Math Strategy

An analysis of ticket sales for an opera showed that 6 times as many people attended the performance at night as attended the performance during the day. The analysis also showed that 2,500 more people attended the performance at night than attended the performance during the day. Based on the analysis, how many people attended the performance of the opera during the day if each person only attended one performance?



Math Strategy

An analysis of ticket sales for an opera showed that 6 times as many people attended the performance at night as attended the performance during the day. The analysis also showed that 2,500 more people attended the performance at night than attended the performance during the day. Based on the analysis, how many people attended the performance of the opera during the day if each person only attended one performance?

Attended the daytime performance Attended night performance

B. 2,500

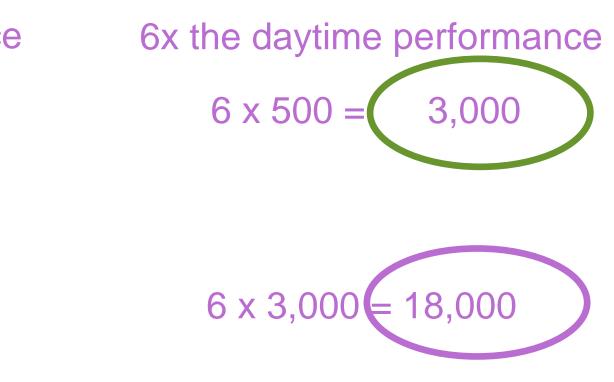
+2,500 =3.000









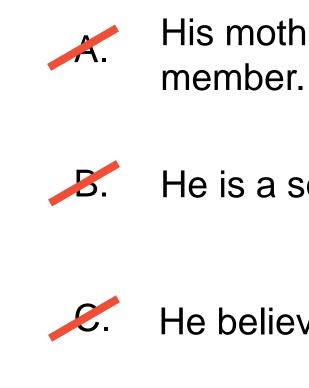


Reading Comprehension Strategy

The following is adapted from Victor Hugo's 1862 novel Les Misérables.

Jean Valjean felt himself exasperated. And besides, human society had done him nothing but harm; he had never seen anything of it save that angry face which it calls Justice, and which it shows to those whom it strikes. Men had only touched him to bruise him. Every contact with them had been a blow. Never, since his infancy, since the days of his mother, of his sister, had he ever encountered a friendly word and a kindly glance. From suffering to suffering, he had gradually arrived at the conviction that life is a war; and that in this war he was the conquered.

Jean Valjean?





- According to the text, what is true about
 - His mother is his closest family
 - He is a soldier fighting at the warfront.
 - He believes in the good of society.
 - He has experienced suffering in his

Your Next Steps

2024–25 SAT Test Dates

Saturday, October 5, 2024

Saturday, November 2, 2024

Saturday, December 7, 2024

Saturday, March 8, 2025

Saturday, May 3, 2025

Saturday, June 7, 2025

Saturday, August 23, 2025*

*projected test date, official date not yet posted



-25 ACT Test Dates

- Saturday, September 14, 2024
 - Saturday, October 26, 2024
- Saturday, December 14, 2024
 - Saturday, February 8, 2025
 - Saturday, April 5, 2025
 - Saturday, June 14, 2025
 - Saturday, July 12, 2025



THERE ARE MANY WAYS TO PREP

PrincetonReview.com

Take a Practice Test

Buy a Prep Book

Self-Prep Online

Take a Course

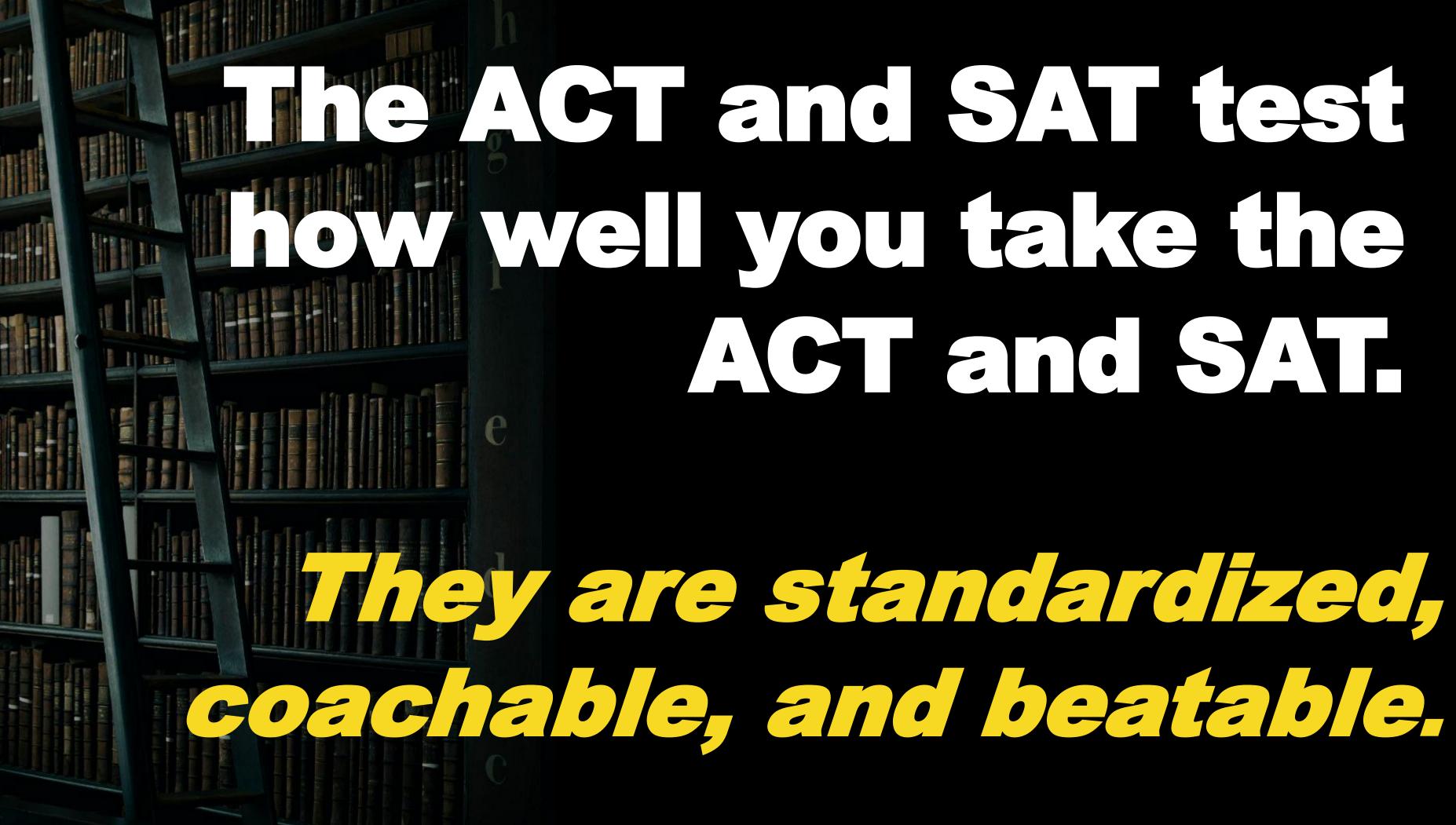
Work with a Tutor

800-2Review

Com

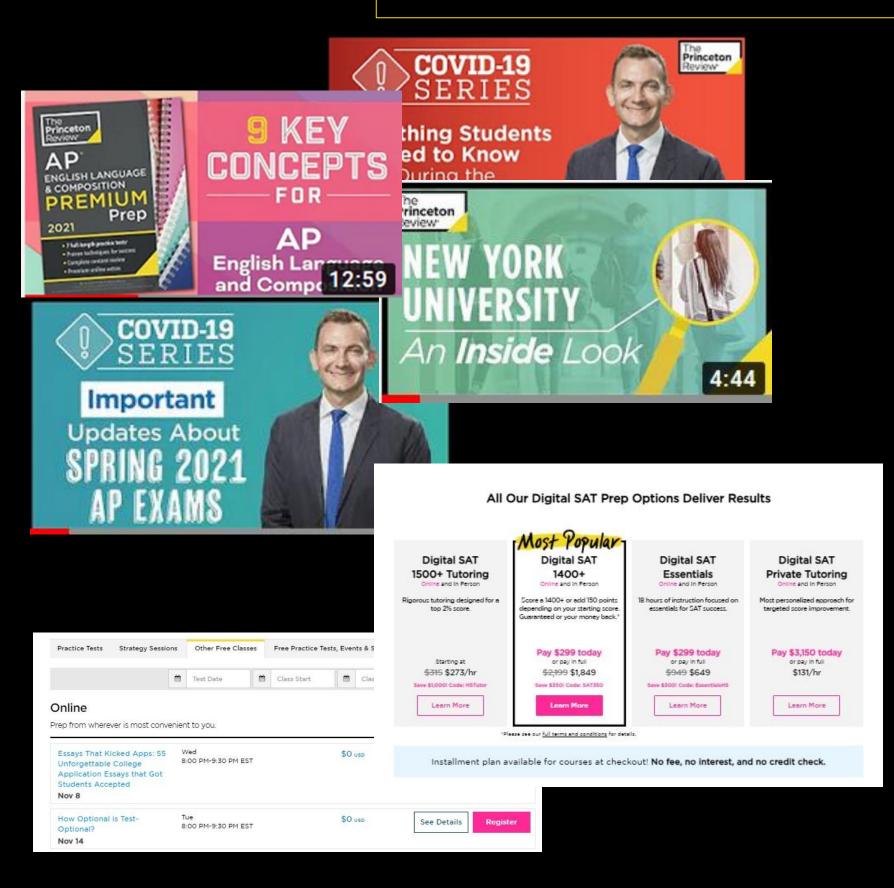
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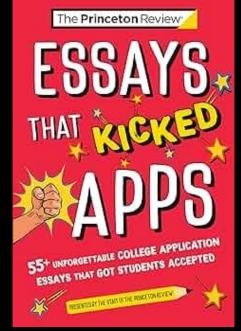
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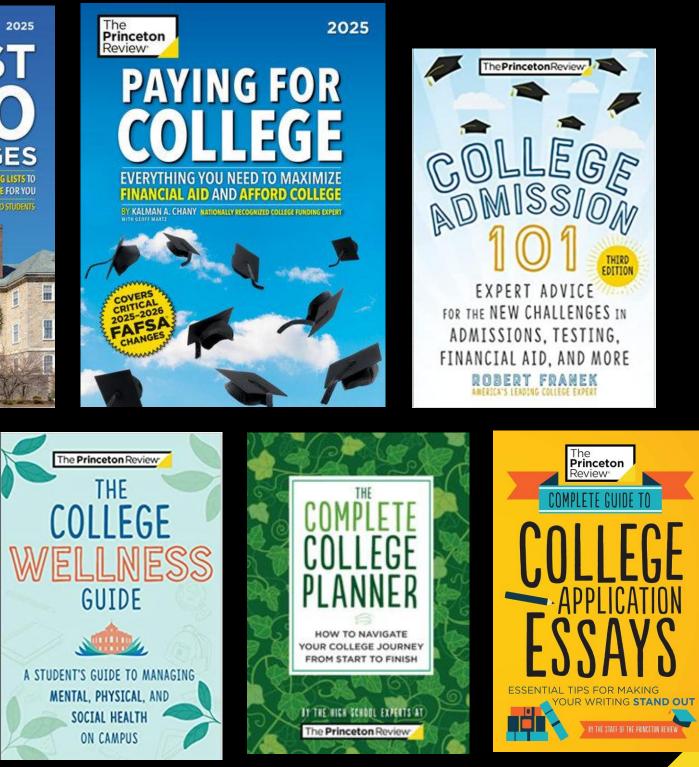
Student & Family Resources

The





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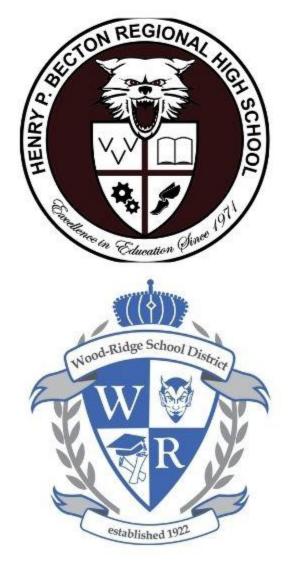


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UPCOMING **EVENTS**

College Readiness Webinar Series



SAT[®] & ACT[®] Practice Tests

Saturday, January 18, 2025 at 9am (or anytime after this date!

Take a free, virtual, full-length practice SAT and/or ACT. After the test, you'l receive a comprehensive, interactive score report detailing your strengths and areas for improvement so you can be ready for the official exam.



Finding Your Best Fit Colleges

Wednesday, February 12, 2025 at 7pm There are thousands of colleges across the country AND there are best fit colleges out there for everyone. This presentation will help students discover what a dream college means for them, and help them learn how to find their best fit.

Essays That Kicked Apps: Crafting Your College Essay

Thursday, May 15, 2025 at 7pm

In a more competitive than ever admissions landscape, college application essays are a great way to stand out from other applicants. In this presentation, we will discuss why these essays are important, some editing basics, and how to make your essay memorable in the minds of the admissions committee.



TAKE YOUR TESTIS ANY TIME THAT IS CONVENIENT FOR YOU









Questions?

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